

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in our amendments or responses to Office actions.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method of modulating tumor growth comprising contacting a tumor cell with an effective amount of a binding composition comprising an antigen-binding site of an antibody to p19 an-antagonist of IL-23.
2. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein the antagonist of IL-23 binding composition inhibits or prevents tumor growth.
3. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the tumor cell expresses IL-23.
4. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein the ~~antagonist of IL-23 comprises a~~ binding composition that specifically binds [[a]] the polypeptide of p19 (SEQ ID NOs: 2 or 4) of SEQ ID NO: 2.
5. (Cancelled)
6. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 4, wherein the binding composition comprises:
 - a) a polyclonal antibody;
 - b) a monoclonal antibody;
 - c) a humanized antibody, or a fragment thereof; or
 - d) an Fab, Fv, or F(ab')₂ fragment; ~~or~~
 - ~~e) a peptide mimetic of an antibody.~~
7. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the tumor cell is:
 - a) a colon cancer cell;
 - b) an ovarian cancer cell;

- c) a breast cancer cell; or
- d) a melanoma cell.

8. (Currently amended) A method of treating a subject suffering from a cancer or tumor comprising administering to the subject an effective amount of a binding composition comprising an antigen-binding site of an antibody to p19 an antagonist of IL-23.

9. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 8, wherein the antagonist of IL-23 binding composition inhibits:

- a) growth of the cancer or tumor;
- b) cachexia;
- c) anorexia; or
- d) angiogenesis.

10. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 8, wherein the ~~antagonist of IL-23~~ comprises a binding composition that specifically binds [[a]] the polypeptide of p19 (SEQ ID NOS: 2 or 4) of SEQ ID NO: 2.

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Original) The method of Claim 10, wherein the binding composition comprises:

- a) a polyclonal antibody;
- b) a monoclonal antibody;
- c) a humanized antibody, or a fragment thereof; or
- d) an Fab, Fv, or F(ab')₂ fragment; ~~or~~
- ~~e) a peptide mimetic of an antibody.~~

13. (Original) The method of Claim 8, wherein the cancer or tumor is of the:

- a) gastrointestinal tract;
- b) respiratory tract;

- c) reproductive system; or
- d) endocrine system.

14. (Original) The method of Claim 8, wherein the cancer or tumor is:
- a) colon cancer;
 - b) ovarian cancer;
 - c) a melanoma; or
 - d) breast cancer.